PRAYER

LORD, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older. Keep me from getting talkative and, particularly, from the habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from the craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful, but not moody, helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end. Keep my mind free from recital of endless details, give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my many aches and pains, they are increasing, and my love of rehearing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pain. Help me to endure them with patience. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint; some of them are so hard to live with; but a sour old human is one of the crowning works of the devil. Help me extract all possible fun out of life. There are so many funny things around us, and I don't want to miss any of them. Amen. - Author unknown.

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the old system too. If the flow is even a judge's bloom will be judged by the time he is ready to join his team. A judge on the first team to work could get his own bloom but this can be overcome by waiting to enter his bloom until several teams are at work. Most of the judges have been doing this, or getting a friend to tag his bloom.

Again I say, it takes planning, organization, training, and equipment to do the job. It can work, but the chapter should be allowed to make their choice as to system.

A few more random remarks and I'll quit bending your ear. I have heard judges ask while marking their ballots, "Is this your bloom?" or "Whose bloom is this?" This is impartial? Some judges are never with the others when voting starts, or wander off while ballots are being counted. Exhibitors enter the display area and congregate in front of the gold seal tables while judging is in progress. It is very disturbing to have unauthorized peoplein the way when trying to place bloom on the tables. People will come in and open tags on the gold seal bloom before final judging. At some shows I have had to close tags three and four times.

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